



An E-Update

Prepared by Organizational Results
Missouri Department of Transportation

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March Research Forum to Include Call for Research Ideas

The March 18 research forum in St. Louis will attract representatives from public and private research organizations to discuss research needs in the areas of freight and intermodal development along with transportation funding, finance and economic development. At the conclusion of the daylong session, participants will be invited to submit research proposals during the following month. For more information see our invitation. [Research Forum Invitation](#)

MoDOT Receives State Quality Award

Recently MoDOT received the 2007 Missouri Quality Award from the Excellence in Missouri Foundation. The award, modeled after the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, is the official state recognition for excellence in quality leadership. In giving the award, the Excellence in Missouri foundation cited MoDOT's visionary leadership and its use of innovative tools and programs to meet the transportation needs of its customers. Only one other state agency has ever won the award – the Missouri Department of Revenue in 2000. All the facts are just a click away. [Missouri Quality Award](#)

Port Authority Update Emphasizes Economic Potential

Missouri's geographical location places it at the crossroads of where America does business each day. In addition to the highway, rail and air facilities common to surrounding states, Missouri has the distinct advantage of having two navigable waterways, over 200 port facilities, and 14 public port authorities. A recent update of port authority information found nearly all Missouri port authorities are changing to support bio-fuels; either directly with plants at the ports, or indirectly with increased capacity for related cargo. Missouri's highways and railways can handle some traffic increases due to bio-fuels, but only Missouri waterways have enough potential capacity for the quantities of cargo bio-fuel production will need. There's more information waiting to flow your way. [Port Authority Update](#)

Here's proof. Check out two economic impact studies recently completed for three individual port authorities. [SEMO Port Authority](#) [New Madrid and Pemiscot County Port Authorities](#)

Remote Monitoring Keys Concrete Panel Study

Drivers on Interstate 57 didn't realize a technological breakthrough was occurring as they drove a short stretch of pavement near Charleston, Missouri. But it was. Researchers from the University of Missouri-Columbia embedded instruments in precast prestressed concrete panels to evaluate pavement performance in severe weather and traffic conditions. The results of the study also suggest improvements to the fabrication and construction processes for PPCP. Find all the details embedded in our report. [Concrete Panel Report](#)

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Deck Condition Linked to Longer Lasting Epoxy Overlays

Missouri has been using epoxy resin overlays to extend the life of its bridge decks for nearly 20 years. However, bridge deck performance ratings showed some overlays lasting 10 to 15 years, while other fail in just two years. With epoxy overlays on more than 300 bridges statewide, the source of early failures was paramount. An in-house study of 100 of those bridges found that the deck condition prior to the overlay strongly correlated to its service life. Overlays on decks requiring patching on more than 5 percent of the deck are most likely to perform well for only a few years.

[Epoxy Overlay Report](#)

Rural Communities Continue to Benefit from Highways

According to recently completed in-house study, non-urbanized counties in Missouri with more miles of four-lane highway tend to have the highest rates of economic and community growth. This replicated a 2003 study and showed continued positive trends in economic growth. While a variety of factors are involved in economic and community development, a well planned transportation system based on citizen and business partnerships and founded in a robust planning process provides for culture of growth and development that benefits rural residents, communities, and Missouri as a whole. See how the numbers crunch. [Benefits of Highway Improvements on Rural Communities](#)

Online Resources

The National Transportation Library recently published two new “Sources of Information in Transportation” you might be interested in seeing. Each of these links will provide you with an overall guide, arranged in subject sections, to the literature of transportation in North America and internationally.

Inland Water: http://ntl.bts.gov/ref/biblio_6ed/inland_water/

Trucking: http://ntl.bts.gov/ref/biblio_6ed/trucking/

Also recently released:

Highways: http://ntl.bts.gov/ref/biblio_6ed/highways/

ITS: http://ntl.bts.gov/ref/biblio_6ed/its/

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You can also find them at <http://www.modot.mo.gov/services/rdt/byDate.htm>.

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